

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Cecilton, Maryland Water System

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We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

The source of our drinking water is two wells drilled into the your local aquifer, which lies about 100 feet below the earth's surface. An aquifer is an underground body of water, which is tapped by drilling wells and pumping the water to the surface for distribution. The 100 feet of earth between surface sources and this aquifer helps to purify the water before it actually reaches the aquifer, making it easier for us to treat before we pump it into your water distribution system.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets Federal and State requirements. The following report is provided in compliance with Federal regulations and will be provided annually each year. This report outlines the quality of our finished drinking water and what that quality means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning the water utility, please contact the Town Administrator at (410) 275-2692. We want our valued customers to be informed about the water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings held on the fourth Monday of each month at Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

The Cecilton water department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables on the following pages show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances.

### Definitions

In this report you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (u/l)* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)* - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

### Non-Detected Contaminants

The Town of Cecilton is only required to provide information on those contaminants it has detected in the finished water supply.

Detected Contaminants not in Violation of the MCL
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Contaminant	Level	unit of Detected Measure-	MCL	M CLG	Likely Source of
1. Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	0.0006**	mg/L	0.006	0	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
2. Lead	0.004	mg/L	0.015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
3. Copper	0.531	mg/L	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
4. Barium	0.19	mg/L	2	2	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
5. Fluoride	0.29	mg/L	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
6. TTHM's	0.00942	mg/L	0.08	n/a	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
7. HAA5	0.004	mg/L	0.060	n/a	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
8. Gross Alpha	1	pCi/L	15pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation
9. Combined Radium	0.2	pCi/L	5pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits
10. Gross Beta	4	pCi/L	50pCi/L	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as beta particles
11. Fluoride	0.39	mg/L	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories



***“If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. [Name of utility] is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”***

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, **including bottled water**, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

**Usted puede obtener informacion en espanol por llamar por telefono la casa del ayuntamiento de Town of Cecilton a (410) 275-2692**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Please call Town Hall if you have questions.

The Town of Cecilton is dedicated to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

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